

## ASHMANSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

<b>Date:</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> September 2016</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>
<b>Place:</b>	Ashmansworth Village Hall		
<b>Present:</b>	Cllr Alan Cox (Chairman)	Cllr Andrew Bays	
<b>Councillors:</b>	Cllr Kieron Black	Cllr Sally Burch	
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Sadie Owen (Clerk)	Cllr Graham Falconer	
		Dudley Rees (Gigabeam)	
		15 residents	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Cllr Angela Harris		

#### 1. Apologies

As above.

#### 2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meetings held on 29<sup>th</sup> June were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record. They were duly signed by Cllr Cox.

#### 3. Matters Arising

Not applicable.

#### 4. Planning

##### a) Update on previous applications

The Clerk had not been able to determine whether the outstanding planning issue relating to Astley Lodge had been resolved or whether the item had been withdrawn. Cllr Burch confirmed that it had been withdrawn.

##### b) Further applications received

The council had received plans concerning The Old School House, Church Lane (16/03341/HSE). The application proposed a remodelling of the existing dwelling including new chimney, slate roof, installation of windows, demolition of second storey elements to west elevation and construction of two storey side extension. The owner talked through the plans with the council. Cllr Bays queried what the proposed barrel roof would be made of. The owner confirmed that it would be weathered timber cladding.

The council had no objection to the proposed application.

Clerk to notify BDBC Planning.

**Clerk**

The council had also received plans concerning Hallam, Cross Lane (16/03358/FUL). The application proposed erection of a new dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings. Formation of new vehicular access, summer house, landscaping and associated works. The owner presented the proposed plans to the council commenting that the current plans were for a smaller dwelling than proposals which had received

planning permission 18 months previously. The owner commented that he intended to create a building that would naturally fit into the character of Ashmansworth, incorporating the traditional brick and flint style.

Cllr Bays commented that it appeared to be a more sympathetic building.

The council had no objection to the proposed application.

Clerk to notify BDBC Planning.

**Clerk**

## 5. Borough Business

- a) Newtown Road recycling centre - Cllr Falconer reported that it was anticipated that HCC residents within a 10 mile radius of the Newbury site will be issued with a permit once the system had bedded in.

For clarification, Cllr Falconer stated that BDBC are responsible for household waste, and HCC for household recycling. West Berkshire is a unitary authority responsible for both.

- b) Devolution - Cllr Falconer commented that discussions were still ongoing in relation to this and that HCC were currently campaigning to become a unitary authority, a scheme widely criticised by all other councils.

- c) Finance – Cllr Falconer reported that the annual accounts of BDBC had been approved the previous day by the Audit and Accounts Committee. BDBC has physical assets of £463 million, made up of £164 cash, £247m property and £74 m other assets of mainly operational land.

## 6. Council Business

- a) Clerk's Report – the Clerk reported that she had attended a Devolution workshop run by HCC which had suggested that whether there was a combined or unitary authority within Hampshire, there would be devolution of some services to parish councils. It had been suggested at the workshop that areas such as rights of way, community services, minor highways works and local assets would be devolved locally. The clerk commented that this would potentially necessitate raising the precept at some point in the future.

- b) Lengthsman update – Cllr Burch reported the overgrown foliage on bridleway 21 had been cut back but needed to be re-done.

The Clerk agreed to speak to the Lengthsman and to request an update in relation to jobs completed and to request a timeline for outstanding tasks.

**Clerk**

## 7. Local Roads

Potholes/Road Repairs – Cllr Cox commented that some reported potholes had been repaired but there were still a number outstanding.

A resident present complained that once a reported road fault had been passed to a contractor on the Hampshire website it was removed as an outstanding issue from the system, even though it may not have necessarily been repaired.

**Cllr  
Falconer**

Cllr Falconer agreed to raise this matter with HCC Highways.

## 8. Crux Easton phone box

In her absence, Cllr Harris had circulated a report commenting that she had met with Chris Lambden who would hopefully be installing the pin board and shelves to the phone box during the forthcoming week.

Cllr Harris would then liaise with Carol Davies for some relevant historical material.

**Cllr Harris**

**9. Broadband**

Please see Appendix B for a synopsis of the presentation provided by Dudley Rees of Gigabeam.

**10. Neighbourhood Watch**

The Clerk presented the following update from PCSO Damon Hope.

Burglaries (2)

There were 2 non-dwelling burglaries in August:

A farm in Burghclere had an outbuilding broken into and a copper boiler stolen.

A property in Burghclere had an attempted theft of the garage but were disturbed by the house owners and fled before entry could be gained.

Criminal Damage (3)

Breachfield, Burghclere – Aggrieved was woken in the night to find that the back windscreen of their vehicle had been deliberately smashed.

Breachfield, Burghclere – Aggrieved has reported scratches to the side of their vehicle and damage to the wing mirror whilst visiting a friend.

Osprey Close, Bishops Green – Resident has reported damage to a rear gate of the property. The bottom panels have been kicked in leaving a large hole in the bottom.

Theft (2)

Burghclere – Parish Council have reported the theft of a lightning rod from the side of one of their premises.

Burghclere – Aggrieved has reported the theft of lead from 16 commercial premises.

Assaults (1)

Sydmonton – A motorist has reported an altercation with another driver who has exited the vehicle and punched him in the face.

Public Order & ASB (3)

Heathlands, Penwood – Verbal dispute between neighbours. Resolved after Police intervention.

Eagle Road, Bishops Green – Verbal and threatening behaviour between and recently separated couple regarding access to children. Resolved after Police intervention

Oakfields Close, Ecchinswell – Verbal and threatening altercation between neighbours regarding parking issues. Both parties spoken to by Police and resolved.

#### Theft from Vehicle (1)

Penwood Car Park – Car window has been smashed and a handbag stolen from inside

#### Summary

There has been a rise in the number of poaching incidents on rural lands. Please keep an eye out for any vehicles possibly containing multiple male occupants with dogs acting suspiciously around rural areas and farmlands. It could be perfectly incident but its better it's reported so we investigate it.

The Clerk agreed to request inclusion of Cllr Burch to PCSO Hope's email distribution list.

**Clerk**

#### 'Nottingham Knockers'

Cllr Cox commented that he had been notified of another spate of door to door salesmen in the village. The police had been called and had removed the salesmen.

### **11. BDAPTC/HALC**

Unfortunately neither Cllr Cox nor the Clerk had been able to attend the recent BDAPTC meeting, although councillor Cox had received the minutes and placed them on the BDAPTC website.

### **12. Financial Matters**

a) Payments Approval – the Clerk presented the financial statement (appendix A). The payments were unanimously agreed. Clerk to process.

**Clerk**

b) Change of bank – the Clerk reported that all paperwork had now been filed with the bank and that she had been assured that the application was now being processed.

**Clerk**

Clerk to update at next meeting.

c) Approval of Clerk's annual review and contractual terms – Cllr Cox reported that he and the Clerk had met for an annual review and that he was very satisfied with the Clerk's performance to date.

Cllr Cox commented that the Clerk had agreed to discuss salary band and any statutory increase with her other employer parish and then to report back with any agreed increase to be backdated to 1st April.

**Clerk**

d) Approval of annual return– the Clerk presented the Annual return and external auditor Certificate and report for approval.

Cllr Bays proposed and Cllr Black seconded approval and acceptance of the Annual Return.

**13. Newtown Road recycling centre update**

Please see item 5a) above.

**14. Date of next meeting**

The meeting closed at 9.50pm The next meeting will be on 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm.

**Clerk**

**APPENDIX A**

**Financial statement : Ashmansworth Parish Council**  
**Meeting date : 27/09/2016**

**Balances:**

<b>Statement No: 378 (28/08/2016) Balance</b>	<b>Balance after reconciliation - 27/09/16</b>
£3,092.61	3,478.19

**Payments since last meeting date :**

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>TOTAL COST</b>
100632	K Black	Road planings	276.00
100633	Mrs S Owen	Clerk Salary May	139.24
100633	Mrs S Owen	Clerk Salary June	139.24
100634	A D Clark Grounds Maintenance	May cut	114.00
100635	Premier Grounds Maintenance	Roller hire	85.00
100635	Premier Grounds Maintenance	VAT	17.00
100636	Do the Numbers Ltd	Internal audit	155.00
100628	CPRE	Annual subscription	36.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>961.48</b>

**New Items for payment**

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>TOTAL COST</b>
100637	Vision Ict	Website hosting	231.60
100638	A D Clark Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting - July	114.00
100639	A D Clark Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting - June	171.00
100640	A D Clark Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting - August	171.00
100641	Mrs S Owen	Clerk Salary July	139.24
100641	Mrs S Owen	Clerk Salary August	139.24
100641	Mrs S Owen	Clerk Salary September	139.24
100641	Mrs S Owen	Stationery	9.10
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1,114.42</b>

**Receipts since last meeting date :**

<b>Receipt Date</b>	<b>Payer</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>
23/09/2016	BDBC	Precept Oct-Mar	1,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1,500.00</b>

**Payments not yet presented**

<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>TOTAL COST</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>0.00</b>

**Gigabeam Presentation 27/09/16: Dudley Rees**

**Background**

The company launched in February and now has 80 customers, having initially rolled the service out to villages within a 20-mile radius of Winchester.

Gigabeam use a part-fibre, part wireless infrastructure, to provide an alternative broadband service. The service works via an externally fitted receiver (a small dish fitted to the outside of the house), connected to an internal router. In order to work well there needs to be a line of sight to the main transmitter or relay.

In order to make the business viable it was estimated that the company would require 300 customers.

Currently there is interest from 42 residences within Ashmansworth & Crux Easton.

**Feasibility in Ashmansworth**

Gigabeam will investigate the feasibility of relaying a service straight to Ashmansworth. Important matters for consideration are the number of trees within the parish and establishing a clear line of site to a suitable mast. The company will trial a direct route to the parish initially; however if that fails it will then look into the logistics and cost of installing an intermediate hub halfway between Winchester and Ashmansworth.

Were this option to be followed there would be additional costs that residents would need to collectively pay in order to cover the additional expenditure of the hub.

Gigabeam will look at the infrastructure and layout of the parish in order to ascertain a suitable central location.

**Service offered**

Packages are as follows:

10Mb/s with symmetrical speeds up and down (200 GB usage limit): £29.99 per month

30Mb/s (500 GB usage limit): £39.99 per month

50Mb/s (1000 GB usage limit): £59.99 per month

Gigabeam currently monitors its network, with an alarm system which notifies if a residence or relay goes offline. Generally thus far issues have related to power cuts rather than faults with the system. The company are looking into a 24/7 helpline, but this is unlikely to be offered until the customer base increases.

The latency of the service is around 20 milliseconds.

There is a standard connection fee of £195.

No telephone line is required for the service.

Weather does not adversely affect the service. The main problem is generally loss of power.

Where an external transmitter is not practical then armoured fibre cable can be laid into the house. The cable is currently priced at £1 per metre, with additional costs for digging and installing, which our residents should be able to provide.

### **Next steps**

Alan, Andrew and Dudley's colleague Tom to meet and to test the feasibility of a direct relay from Winchester and then to review the cluster of houses requiring the service within the parish.